

City of Somerville, Health Department
Report to Joint Public Health Board, Board of Health and Mayor's Office
for February 2006

To Be Submitted March 7, 2006 to JPHB

Board of Health

- Board members recommended parameters for the creation of an Apprenticeship Process to the current Body Art Regulations of the Somerville Board of Health. These were forwarded to the Assistant City Solicitor who will incorporate for future comment
- Board members received updates on need to receive training in Incident Management System Command, and updates on Mutual Aid. The NIMS 700 and ICS 100 training will be offered at Somerville Hospital in early 2006.
- Tobacco Control Updates on Good Times situation and proposed changes to youth access regulations were introduced for discussion
- Director, Board members, School Nurses, friends, colleagues and family joined the Mayor and Aldermen in honoring Dr. David Osler on Thursday February 9th at regularly scheduled Aldermen meeting.

Director's Updates

Emergency Preparedness

- Director and Public Health Nurse attend Governors Pandemic Flu summit at the Boston Convention Center
- Director and Public Health Nurse meet with Region 4B Coordinator Mary Clark and her staff to discuss the spending of FY06 funds
- Director and Public Health Nurse meet with Deputy Chief Graney and Lynn Schoeff to begin discussing City of Somerville role in Operation Poseidon
- Director and Public Health Nurse facilitate requested meeting with Metro Boston Homeland Security Representative Liam Seward
- Director and Public Health Nurse attend monthly Region 4B and Metro Boston Homeland Security Public Health Subcommittee meetings
- Director communicates with School Nursing staff about need to take NIMS and ICS incident management training
- Director and Public Health Nurse meet with Regional Liaison to begin COOP planning and to respond to Board Order on planning for flu pandemic

Body Art

- Director convenes pre-Board meeting with members of the Body Art Working Group to finalize ideas for the Apprenticeship Process
- Director requests and receives City of Quincy timesheets and other Apprenticeship Protocols

Fiscal/ Budget

- Director and Administrative Assistant meet regularly to understand the reasons there is a surplus in Personal Services FY 06

Active Living/ Shape Up Somerville

- Director and Health Agenda Director participate in Active Living by Design Research preliminary conference call with grantees

- Director and Health Agenda convene with Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator to look at and assess in detail, the budgets associated with each of the Robert Wood Johnson grants the health department administers
- Director and Health Agenda conduct progress update with Active Living Program Officer

Other

- Director participates in ongoing evaluation planning work of Somerville Cares About Prevention including CMCA Logic Model discussion
- Director under leadership of Grants Administrator participates in EOPS Anti-Gang Prevention Funding discussion
- Director meets with Consultant Planner Eileen Sullivan to continue with steps in departmental planning process
- Director meets with Alderman President MaryAnn Heuston to do a status check on rodent control measures proposed earlier to the Board
- Director participates in Integrated Grant Planning Meeting of Institute for Community Health
- Director co-presents with SCAP Director at monthly Somerstat meeting
- Director participates in Interviewing Committee for Tobacco Control Enforcement Officer position
- Director and Administrative Assistant continue working with Womens Commission Director to update Departmental page and programs on city website

Health Inspectors

Sanitary Inspections

- Responded to 30 complaints, 27 resolved
- Conducted 36 inspections of retail/food establishments, 28 reinspections
- Three new business inspections
- 14 first visits to potential new businesses
- Two floor plan reviews
- Annual renewal permit collection
- Responded to one emergency (crime scene clean up at Mr. B's Restaurant)

Housing Inspections

- Responded to 66 complaints, 60 resolved
- Conducted 5 full inspections
- Responded to two emergencies (small kitchen fire, unsanitary apartment)
- Met with Modern Pest Extermination for rodent control in the City of Somerville
- Collaborated with the Neighborhood Impact Team
- Issued trash & commercial tickets

Public Health Nursing

- Attended Governor's Summit on Flu Pandemic Preparedness
- Attended Region 4B and UASI meetings
- Investigated 9 communicable disease cases
- Attended BioWatch Tabletop Exercise

- Met with new Region 4b student about emergency planning
- Completed Medicare Billing

School Nursing

- School Nurses continue to gather health information updates to maintain student compliance with health mandates
- School Nurses gave first aid to 1120 students in January
- School Nurses performed illness assessments on 2106 students in January
- School Nurses performed 758 nursing procedures in January (tube feedings, ostomy care, glucose testing, peak/flow monitoring etc.)
- School Nurses gave out medications to students 1511 times in January
- School Nurses attended monthly nurse's meeting
- Psychosocial Counseling was documented 350 in nurse's offices in January
- School nurses continue gathering data for asthma project for school physician
- SNL continuing quality assurance project on vision follow up documentation
- SNL continues to attend PEP grant planning meetings
- SNL continues work on student health report cards
- SNL continues to seek substitute nurses to fill roster
- SNL in Bi Monthly meeting with school physician
- SNL working with school physician to assess asthma data
- SNL collaborating on Somerstat presentation and gathering documentation

Somerville Commission for Women

- *Somerville Domestic Violence Taskforce:* the group is continuing to thrive. We have an intern that is working with the Executive Director of the Women's Commission to develop a domestic violence community education campaign.
- *Walking:* the Safe-START Taskforce meets twice a month and Sonja Darai continues to attend. The current tasks are to take pedestrian/bike counts in target intersections and to assess high-risk intersections on a citywide assessment plan by the Taskforce.
- *TADA:* The teens raised over \$200 (gross) for their programming. After expenses, they will clear about \$45-\$50. The money covers costs such as meeting supplies.
- *Commissioners:* There are now officially eight Commissioners (six who come regularly).
- *Promotion:* The Women's Commission has been in the Somerville Journal several times, the Boston Globe, and on city's cable access for promotion of our free self-defense class and our upcoming 2nd Annual Reception to honor Women's History Month.

Somerville Cares About Prevention

- Held our month Environmental Strategies Sub Committee mtg.
- Developed a strategy to offer server training to pouring and non-pouring establishments in Somerville with the assistance of the Cambridge Prevention Coalition.
- Participated in the mini-grant review process for CHNA 17.

- Attended a prep mtg sponsored by BSAS and the RCHCs for the Town Meetings.
- Town Meeting planning which will take place in March and the Teach-In for April.
- National Alcohol Screening Day planning for April.
- Attended a presentation at Tufts on the Role of Social Capital.
- Attended the MOAR Policy Mtg at Faulkner Hospital.
- Held our Evaluation Committee Mtg to review tracking instruments for the Coalition.
- Implemented this year's YRBS at Somerville High School.
- Attended Teen Empowerment's youth event.
- Held our Opiate Prevention Task Force mtg to review the curriculum Choose To Refuse.
- Made a presentation to the Board of Aldermen's Youth Services Committee to update them on the information contained in the middle school YRBS and other Coalition activities.

Tobacco Control

Administrative

- Conducted first and second rounds of interviews of candidates for Enforcement Officer Position. No one was hired. Process re-opened from 02/28/06 to 03/14/06.
- Chad DeForce's last day was on 02/28/06.

311 System

Met with Sean Murphy on 02/03/06 to go over a preliminary demonstration of the 311 system adapted to take tobacco calls. System is currently under review for possible changes before its implementation.

Statewide Partnership Meeting

- Attorney General's Retailer. Training/Secret Shopper Meeting at Mass. Municipal Association.

Youth Access

- Tobacco retailer compliance checks in:
 - Cambridge (Checked: 120, Sale: 3, Tickets: 3, Total: \$300) Current rate of sale FY05: 3.7%
 - Revere (Checked: 64, Sale: 1, Fine: \$100) Current rate of sale FY05: 2.2%
- Tobacco retailer educational inspections in:
 - Everett (Visited: 57, Signage Violations: 21, warnings: 21)
- Educational Mailings
 - Somerville: 125 pieces
 - Cambridge: 143 pieces
 - Chelsea: 59 pieces
 - Everett: 57 pieces
 - Revere: 87 pieces
 - 471 pieces

Trauma Response Network

- Chaired 2 TRN Leadership Mtgs. 2/6, 2/13
- Attended training on IT 2/1
- Presented on TRN via PowerPoint at Kiwanis Club 2/2
- Attended IC3 meeting on collaboration 2/28

- Created and distributed collateral paperwork for Suicide Survivor's Support Group
- Performed recruitment for preliminary focus groups for Suicide Survivor's Support Group and attending correspondence
- Attended meeting with colleagues re: Suicide Survivor's Support Group - 2/7
- Attended State House event on Suicide Prevention with MA Coalition for Suicide Prevention 2/6
- Recruited and administered paperwork for 9 Somerville community members to be trained in PTSM 2/8,9,10
- Attended PTSM training 2/ 8
- Attended all day training on Suicide Prevention sponsored by MA Coalition and DPH 2/9
- Attended Youth Worker/Coaches Conversations meetings to continue work on funded grant – 2/16 as well as continued independent work related to this training
- Attended Education and Training Committee meeting of MA Coalition for Suicide Prevention – 2/16
- Attended 2 meetings at CTRF to coordinate 2/7, 2/14
- Met with District Administrator of Student Services and Asst. Headmaster of HS to discuss trauma protocols 2/16
- Met with District Administrator of Student Services and Director of Guidance to discuss trauma protocols 2/28
- Attended Youth Workers Network Meeting 2/28